

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The slide handler is an instrument that automatically transfers glass microscope slides from a cassette or magazine to a motorized microscope stage and then returns the slide back into the second cassette. The use of this instrument permits the unattended computer control, measurement and inspection of specimens mounted to the slides. Full modular integration of the system components allows for the slide handler instrument to be utilized with any microscope. The instrument system has a minimum of three components; namely a slide cassette indexer, an XY-stage, and a slide exchange arm. The indexer, the arm and the XY-stage are connected together and integrated into one unitary modular instrument that can be moved from one microscope to another.